

The dedication of Americans who devote their lives to working to promote democracy and American values overseas never fails to impress me. Having visited our embassy in Nairobi just two months ago, I was again reminded by the caliber of the people who serve there—and struck by their dedication.

Our colleagues may not be aware of this, Mr. Speaker, but American support to the largest humanitarian airlift in history—large even than the Berlin Airlift 50 years ago—is being coordinated out of the U.S. embassy in Nairobi.

Two million people have died already in Sudan. A million more are threatened with starvation in the coming months. It is the worst famine I have seen since a million Ethiopians died a decade ago. Saving starving people is difficult, depressing, dirty work—and it could not be done without the support of the Americans who serve in Nairobi.

Our nation is diminished by the loss of these dedicated Americans, and we share their families' grief. America's embassies are bastions of hope in Africa, and we will not forget those who died today in service to our country.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, today, according to the NFIB, one third of small business owners will have to sell outright or liquidate a part of their firm or farm to pay estate taxes. Half of those who liquidate for this purpose have to eliminate 30 jobs or more. This is wrong, just plain wrong. With a \$1.6 trillion dollar projected surplus and estate taxes accounting for one percent of annual revenues to the Treasury, the death tax is hardly justifiable in the face of devastation to families, their businesses and farms, the workers they employ or our nation's ability to compete in a global market.

If we want to encourage entrepreneurship and job creation, we must do more to address this critical issue than merely allowing the payment of death taxes over a few years. We must send a clear message to all Americans, that if they want to pursue the American Dream we will not punish their children, grandchildren or their employees at their death.

That is why I come to the well today to introduce the Family Business and Family Farm Preservation Act. My legislation says that your children can keep the business or farm in the family and avoid paying death taxes on it. All they have to do is continue to run the business as a family enterprise for ten years and plow the profits back into the business over the same time period.

TRIBUTE TO "BIG" WALTER PRICE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 1998

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Houston's best known blues legends, Walter Price.

Blues as a truly American art form has spun many legends throughout its' history, but those who are unique to each region of this nation are the most precious of all. Big Walter Price is just such a legend in blues circles in the City of Houston.

Big Walter, as he is called, from his youth found music to be a consolation for the troubles of life and strove to bring gospel and blues to others as a gift of the spirit.

He started out singing spirituals in church playing in C natural, the first key he taught himself to perform in. There was no one willing to teach the young Walter Price how to play the piano. He had to overcome adversity and resistance from others to hone his skill to become the blues master that many of Houston's connoisseurs of the art appreciate.

His piano style is all his own, one that many musicians find difficult to follow.

Walter Price began playing professionally in 1955, recording with Bob Tanner's TNT label out of San Antonio. This label was marketed to Hispanics and most of Mr. Tanner's artists recorded in Spanish. Bob Tanner signed Mr. Price in an effort to break into the ethnic record market, aimed at African Americans. Walter's first recording with TNT was a novelty tune called "Calling Margie." Which initially did very well in record sells until it suddenly stopped being played over the air. On the record Walter spoke to a white operator while trying to reach a girl named Margie. He used the word honey when referring to the operator which white southerners took offense to and the record was pulled from the air.

After World War II, the ethnic market was having huge successes. Walter Price recorded a string of successes with the TNT label before he was lured to Houston, Texas. He recorded for Don Robey at Duke/Peacock Records and it was there that his career developed with the million selling hit, "Shirley Jean."

Other songs Walter recorded at Duke/Peacock were "Gambling Woman," "Hello Maria," "You're the One I Need," "Just Looking For a Home," and "Pack, Fair and Square."

Mr. Price went to Eddie Schueller at Gold Band Records on Lake Charles after Don Robey sold Duke/Peacock records. At Gold Band Records he recorded "San Antone," "Ramona" and "Here Comes the Bride."

Walter Price always loved gospel music, but his career was in blues.

Walter Price has made Houston proud that he is one of our own. On behalf of the 18th Congressional District I would like to thank him for his contributions to blues.

CRAZY CONSPIRACY THEORIES HAVE THEIR VIOLENT COSTS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, as demonstrated by the recent tragedy that we witnessed in this building, crazy conspiracy theories can have violent and horrific costs.

Accordingly, this Member commends to his colleagues an excellent editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald, on August 5, 1998.

OTHERS FED GUNMAN'S FANTASIES

A sketchy but disturbing portrait is emerging of Russell E. Weston Jr., the ac-

cused gunman in the July 24 U.S. Capitol shootings.

He is being described as a mental patient who fell through the cracks, resisted treatment and, somewhere along the way, had his head filled with paranoid claptrap.

FBI agents who searched his remote cabin in Montana found guns, ammunition and books about espionage. Family members said Weston maintained an abiding fear of the federal government. He believed that federal agents were spying on him through a neighbor's satellite dish.

Authorities were also told that Weston thought the federal government had planted land mines on his property. Documents among his possessions contained references to the Freemans, a group whose members have been involved in confrontations over their insistence that they are not bound by U.S. laws.

More than a few people on the fringes of society say they consider the U.S. government evil. Among them are some militia members and radical survivalists whose far-fetched notions can sometimes be heard on late-night talk shows or read on the Internet.

At times their ravings seem almost comical. One group, for example, sees sinister implications in the yellow fringe with which some American flags are trimmed. The yellow fringe, if we have it right, is proof that the United States is secretly under martial law.

But there's nothing comical when such ideas are pumped into the head of someone whose grasp of reality is less than adequate. Then the result is all too often ugly and violent. Russell Weston spent part of a day in Illinois killing cats. Then he traveled to Washington, where he killed two Capitol police officers in a senseless attack.

Certainly the Tim McVeighs of the world—and Russell Weston, if he is found guilty—must be punished for their crimes. But punishing them doesn't excuse the people who concoct and repeat the crazy conspiracy theories that cause the bomb-builders and the shooters to become so agitated. Russell Weston may be a dangerous criminal, or he may be hopelessly ill. Either way, whoever convinced him that the government is the epitome of evil deserves some of the criticism for what happened at the Capitol.

IN HONOR OF WEBB JOINER

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 1998

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents in the 12th Congressional District, the people of Texas, and the men and women of the American aviation industry, it is my pleasure to express sincere good wishes to Mr. Webb F. Joiner, Chairman and CEO of Bell Helicopter Textron, on the occasion of his retirement. During Webb Joiner's 38-year career at Bell Helicopter Textron, the company has built a worldwide reputation for his commitment to the highest standards in customer service and manufacturing quality.

I am proud to say that the Bell products that America's armed forces depend on to carry out airlift missions around the world are built in my district by the men and women of Texas. The OH-58D Kiowa Warrior is the Army's premier scout-attack helicopter, the modernized UH-1N utility helicopter, and the new V-22 Osprey tiltrotor to take the Corps